

CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION

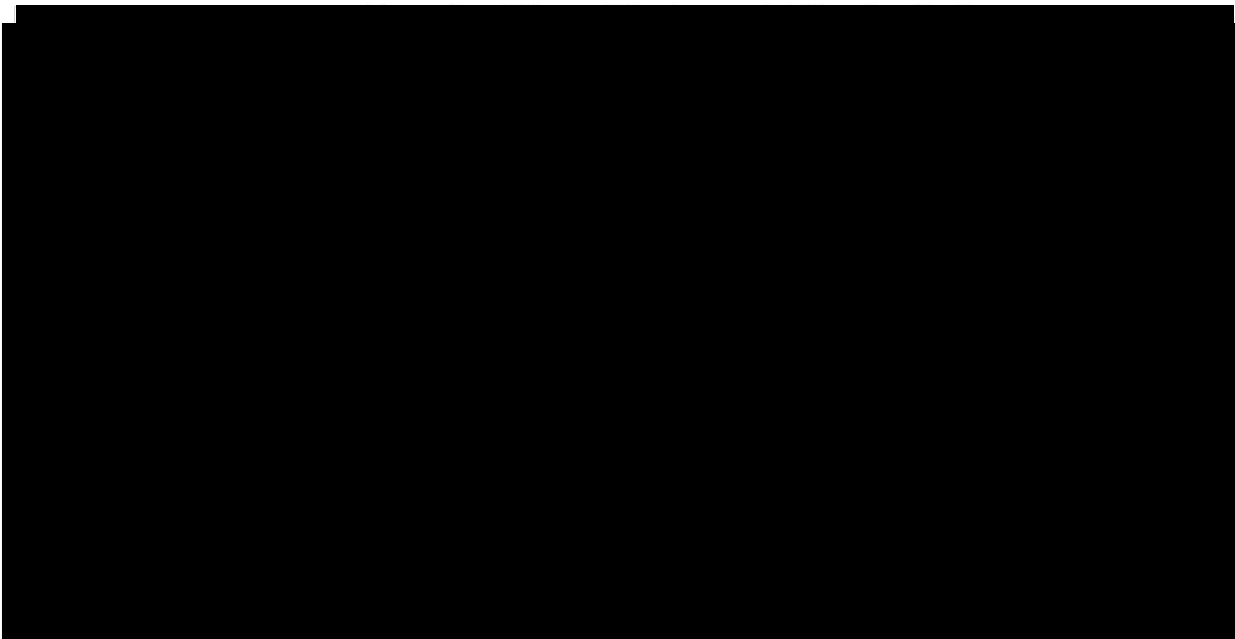
45 FREMONT, SUITE 2000
SAN FRANCISCO, CA 94105-2219
VOICE (415) 904-5200
FAX (415) 904-5400
TDD (415) 597-5885



CALIFORNIA COASTAL COMMISSION
LCP PLANNING
GRANT APPLICATION FORM
NOVEMBER 22, 2013

APPLICANT INFORMATION

Applicant name City of Los Angeles - Los Angeles World Airports (also known as
(organization): the Department of Airports)

**PROJECT INFORMATION**

Project Title: Amendment of the LAX El Segundo Dunes Specific Plan and Long-Term Habitat Management Plan (Together the Proposed Local Coastal Plan for the LAX Dunes Preserve) to Address Climate Change.

LCP/ LCP Segment: n/a

Project location:

City/Geographic area: Playa Del Rey **County:** Los Angeles

Project timeline:

Start date: 3/15/2014 **End date:** 4/15/2016

MAPS AND PHOTOS

EXHIBIT A - PLAYA DEL REY/WESTCHESTER COMMUNITY PLAN - LAX/EL SEGUNDO DUNES

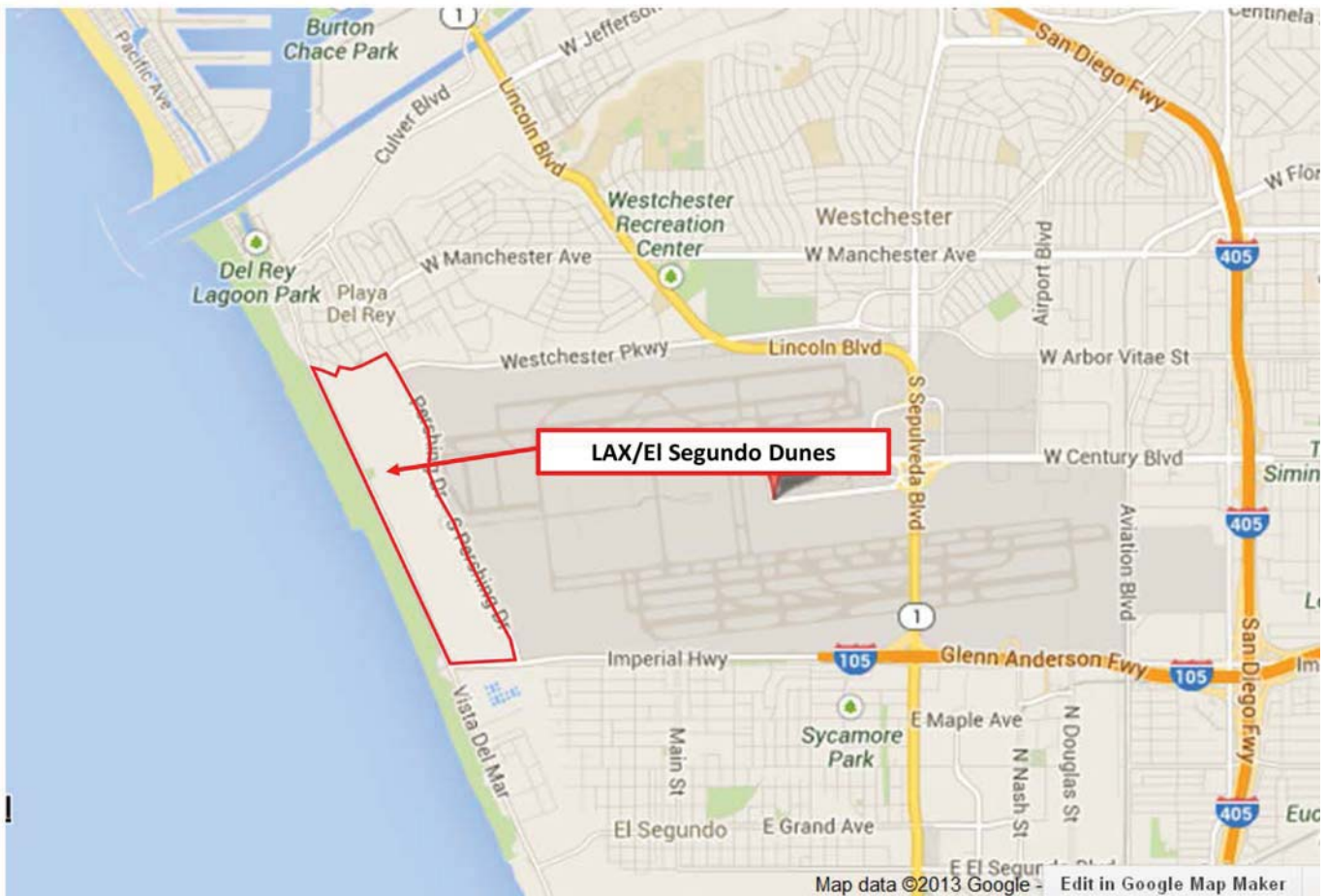


EXHIBIT B
LAX/EL SEGUNDO DUNES
LOCAL COASTAL PLAN PLANNING AREA MAP

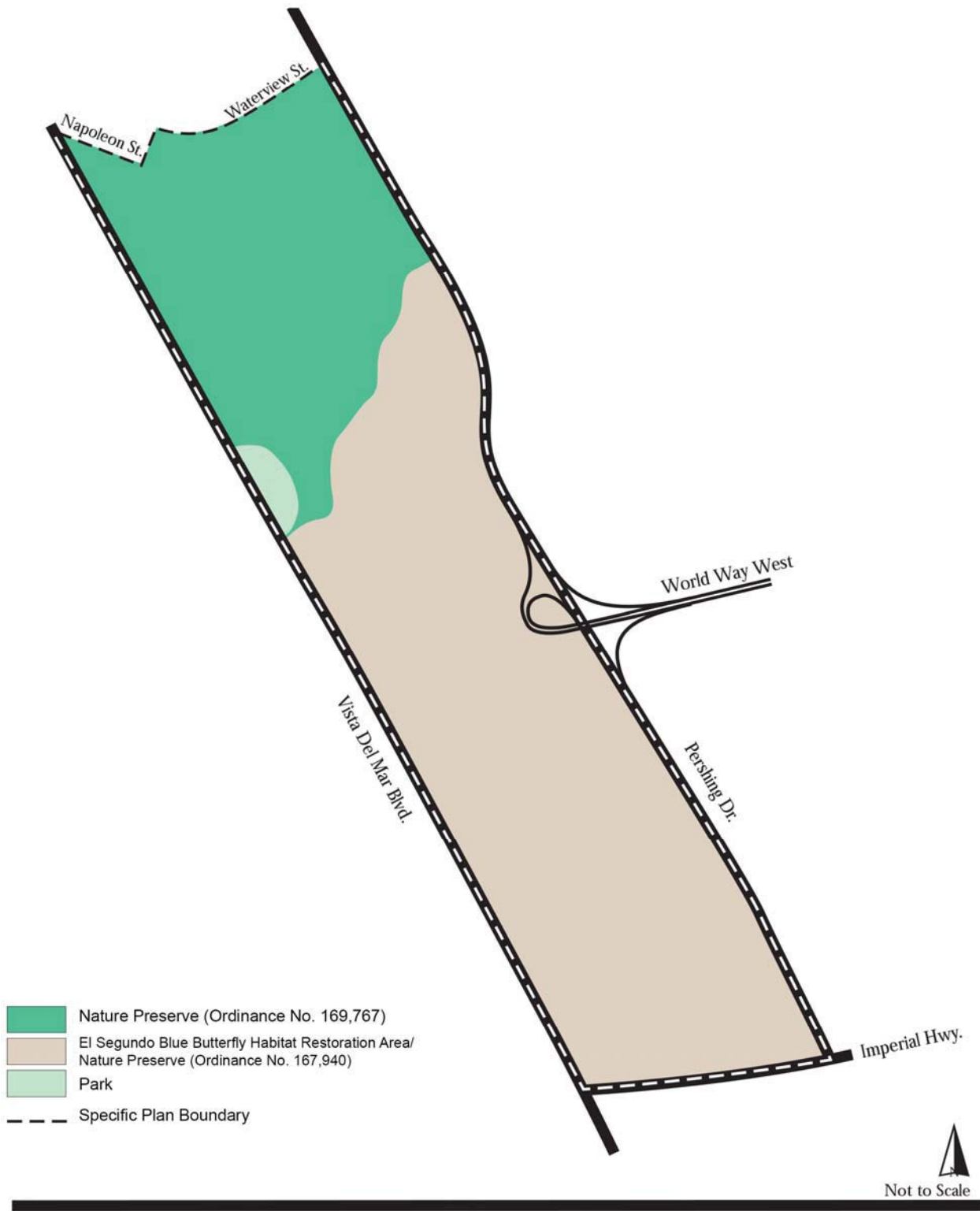


EXHIBIT C – LAX DUNES PHOTOS



PROJECT DESCRIPTION

GOALS AND OBJECTIVES:

The City of Los Angeles (City of LA) - Los Angeles World Airports (LAWA) requests California Coastal Commission (CCC) funding support to develop and submit for certification a revised Local Coastal Plan (LCP) the endangered Los Angeles Airport El Segundo Dunes and its El Segundo Blue Butterfly Preserve Restoration Area (LAX Dunes).

Specifically, LAWA proposes to amend the 1992 Los Angeles Airport El Segundo Dunes Specific Plan (Specific Plan) and update the 1994 Long-Term Habitat Management Plan (HMP) (together the proposed Local Coastal Plan (LCP) for the LAX Dunes previously submitted to the CCC for approval) to: 1) Implement the Coastal Act Ecological and Planning Goals; 2) better reflect today's priorities and ecological restoration science; 3) incorporate management measures that will increase the adaptive capacity and resiliency of the site's coastal plant and wildlife communities through climate change vulnerability and risk assessment data-based planning; 4) update resource management guidelines to include management measures for the additional 100 acres of habitat added to the Preserve in 1994; 5) become consistent with the City of LA's General Plan and the Los Angeles Municipal Code (LAMC); and 6) streamline LAWA's Coastal Development permitting process. Following this amendment and update, LAWA's goal is to submit the new LCP to CCC for certification.

PROJECT DETAILS:

PUBLIC BENEFIT/SIGNIFICANCE

The project benefits the public on many levels and in many different ways. First, it provides for the conservation of rare and endangered ecological and biological resources and biodiversity. The LAX Dunes is a CA Environmentally Sensitive Habitat Area (ESHA) and endangered habitat for various rare, threatened and endangered species, among them the federally threatened coastal CA gnatcatcher (*Poliophtila californica californica*), and the federally endangered El Segundo Blue Butterfly (*Euphilotes battoides allyni*). LAWA is responsible for the ecological management of the LAX Dunes under the City of LA's General Plan Conservation Element. By the nature of its form, flexibility, and physical diversity, the LAX Dunes contain a variety of microclimates that can support a broad diversity of plant species. A species diversity and habitat evaluation of the LAX Dunes by Rudi Mattoni published in 1990 revealed over 900 species of animals and plants present at the time of evaluation, including at least 10 species which appeared restricted to the El Segundo sand dunes and an additional 25 found only on southern California (CA) coastal dunes systems.

The largest remaining contiguous area of coastal dunes in Southern California, the 307-acre coastal dune preserve is an important biodiversity refugia and source of species propagules and colonists important for regional biodiversity resilience during climate change. The LAX Dunes also serve as an important part of the north-south coastal habitat corridor in the South Bay of the Los Angeles area with connectivity with the Ballona Wetlands Ecological Reserve and coastal sage scrub habitat restoration areas in the Palos Verdes Peninsula through restoration projects along the adjacent coastal strand.

The LAX Dunes are identified as a Significant Ecological Area (SEA) in the County of LA's General Plan, and include over 180 acres of restored coastal southern foredune and

backdune, and 43 acres of undisturbed native dunes, including 9 acres of backdune and 30 acres of contiguous foredune. It is home to, and is the most significant recovery unit for, the federally endangered El Segundo Blue Butterfly (*Euphilotes battoides allyni*). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service describes the LAX Dunes as an *endangered habitat*, and “the most likely [population of El Segundo Blue Butterfly] that can survive disease, predators, *parasites*, and other *perturbations*.” The proposed project meets the intent of Goals 5 and 7 of the Coastal Conservancy Strategic Plan, 2013-2018, specifically enhancing biological diversity, habitat and other natural resources within coastal watersheds, and the resiliency of coastal communities and ecosystems to the impacts of climate change. The project will enhance the resiliency and adaptive capacity of the LAX Dunes (located in the Santa Monica Bay watershed east of Dockweiler Beach in Playa del Rey, CA), and surrounding natural communities in the face of global climate change. As a result, updating the HMP and the Specific Plan (LCP) will benefit public interests at all levels from a natural resource protection and conservation, and environmental perspective.

Second, the proposed LCP and planning document updates will also benefit recreational users. The Preserve is popular for birdwatching and other wildlife observation, and volunteer native habitat restoration activities. It has a restored native plant trail with interpretive signs along its northern border. The trail is open to the public and is a popular trail for dogwalkers, local residents, birdwatchers, native plant enthusiasts, fitness-minded visitors, and beach visitors. Nature photographers often walk around the periphery of the Preserve capturing photos of wildlife and plants. It also has the potential for high-impact environmental education opportunities through the development of a nature center (near a busy urban beach) that can inform visitors about coastal ecology, biodiversity, habitat corridors, and climate change.

Third, the revision of the planning documents provides the benefit of a more scientifically up-to-date habitat management plan for the preserve. LAWA seeks to collaborate with climate change and restoration ecology specialists to incorporate into the HMP ecosystem management and monitoring measures based on climate change-informed ecological analyses, and potential risks and vulnerability of the ecosystem to climate change. This update shall include an assessment of climate exposure, sensitivity to exposure, impacts from exposure, the capacity of the ecosystem to adapt, and the level of risk to the resource from climate change. This ecosystem data will help to guide long-term restoration efforts, and translocation experiments, and help to support adaptation and minimize regional species losses as the climate changes. The voucher plant specimens collected during the ecological survey will also contribute to the phenological studies being conducted by the Rancho Santa Ana Botanic Garden.

RELATIVE NEED FOR LCP UPDATE/EXTENT OF UPDATE

The update is needed for several reasons. First, the existing HMP does not account for an additional 100 acres added to the preserve in 1994. The City of LA preserved the 200-acre endangered butterfly habitat that was restored in the early 90s in 1992 through City of LA Ordinance No. 167, 940 (the LA Airport/El Segundo Dunes Specific Plan (Specific Plan)), and published a HMP for the restoration area. The 1992 Specific Plan, which covers the entire approximately 307 acres, includes a 100-acre golf course to be built on the remaining dunes acreage. This Specific Plan was submitted as a LCP to the CCC in 1992, but was rejected and deemed incomplete. In 1994, through City of LA Ordinance No. 169,767, the remaining 100-acres of the LAX El Segundo Dunes,

previously intended for development as a golf course, was rezoned for open space/nature preserve and accessory uses only. The proposed Specific Plan Amendment that will take place as part of the proposed LCP update will incorporate zoning and land use designation changes identified in Ordinance No. 169,767.

Second, the HMP was developed prior to 1997 and prior to the 1994 addition of 100 acres to the Preserve (part of which encompasses a proposed coastal prairie habitat restoration area not previously included in the HMP). It also does not reflect existing conditions or current advances in ecological restoration theory, and therefore does not include climate change adaptations such as the use of adaptive management, use of measures that would be effective independent of the local specifics of temperature or precipitation changes, and an emphasis on biodiversity conservation as opposed to an emphasis mainly on restoring species historically present at a site. It is especially critical that LAWA creates a new LCP with an updated HMP to account for impending climate change shifts in order to avoid any unnecessary reductions in the endangered El Segundo Blue Butterfly population, a species that emerges in response to flowering in its host plant, the coastal buckwheat (*Eriogonum parvifolium*).

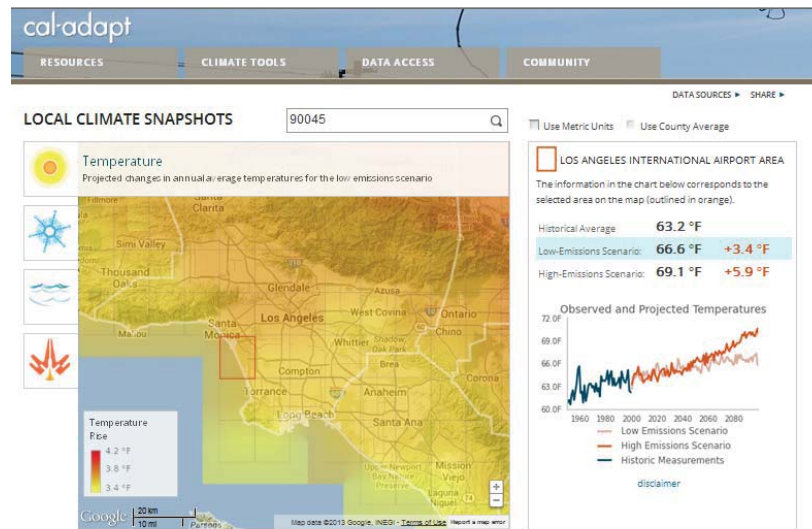
The new LCP shall incorporate by reference the HMP into the proposed Specific Plan as the guidelines for the preservation of the LAX Dunes, and submit to the City an adopted Specific Plan Amendment and the HMP Update to the CCC for certification as the LAX Dunes LCP. This will complete the LCP process initiated for this site in 1985, and help streamline permitting requirements for dunes restoration activities.

ADDRESSING THE EFFECTS OF CLIMATE CHANGE

As mentioned earlier, LAWA seeks to collaborate with climate change and restoration ecology specialists to incorporate into the HMP ecosystem management and monitoring measures based on climate change-informed ecological analyses, and potential risks and vulnerability of the ecosystem to climate change. The LAX Dunes preserve site is separated from the coastal shoreline by Dockweiler Beach and Vista Del Mar Street to the west. Global climate change can modify local climate conditions that native plant communities are adapted to. The following graphic from the Cal-Adapt website indicates that a 3.4-5.9°F temperature increase and a drop in annual precipitation can be expected in the LAX Dunes within the next century. This could impact the distribution of rare plant communities in the dunes and the species that rely on them.

According to projections published on the Cal-Adapt website, a 55-inch rise in sea level is also expected within this century given expected increases in global temperatures. The expected 55-inch sea level rise would flood adjacent Dockweiler Beach leading to an increased exposure of the sandstone supporting Vista Del Mar Street to erosive tidal flows with the possibility of future landslides. The potential encroachment of the ocean could expand salt spray exposure and soil salinity in the LAX Dunes. Any of these changes in the local microclimate could result in the shifting of existing plant populations, temporal shifts in flowering and insect emergence, and the migration of wildlife and other species dependent on those populations. The disturbed areas would also be susceptible to invasion by invasive non-native species which would threaten expression of the native seed bank.

Figure 1 – Projected Climate Change in the LAX Dunes Preserve Area



Source: Cal-Adapt (<http://cal-adapt.org/tools/>)

LAWA can prepare itself for these shifts and adapt its management of the preserve to minimize climate change impacts on the health of the preserve, and to increase the protection of the Preserve's biodiversity. Planning for an increase in invasive species in transition areas, for example, will be crucial. Focusing on biodiversity preservation and restoration of ecosystem processes and function, as opposed to specific historical species as these shifts occur will also be important, as will using methods that are effective regardless of changes in temperature and precipitation. For instance, LAWA could partner with a research botanic garden to introduce the appropriate species for the new microclimatic conditions if needed to supplement native species naturally returning on their own from the existing seed bank as a result of climate change. It is especially critical that LAWA updates its proposed local coastal plan to account for these impending shifts in order to avoid any unnecessary reductions in the endangered El Segundo Blue Butterfly population, a species that emerges in response to flowering in its host plant, the coastal buckwheat (*Eriogonum parvifolium*). Such measures can be incorporated into the HMP through the proposed LCP.

LIKELIHOOD OF SUCCESS/EFFECTIVENESS

The most important factors that will contribute to the success and effectiveness of the LAX Dunes LCP certification include the anticipated streamlined Public Participation Process; the presence of existing land use and zoning ordinances and an existing HMP that can be revised; and strong public and multi-agency support for the project.

The planning process to amend a Specific Plan is a land use legislative action and is governed by Section 12.32F of the LAMC. LAWA Planning Staff will coordinate a formal Public Participation Process with the public and CCC staff that will incorporate a streamlined Plan Presentation and Hearing Phase for all entitlements needed for certification of the LCP; specifically, the amendment of the Specific Plan, the update of the HMP, comprehensive CEQA review and the CCC's CA PRC 30511-30512 LCP certification requirement. The Plan Presentation and Hearing Phase includes numerous workshops with LAWA Stakeholders Groups, Council Office 11 review, Public Workshops, Neighborhood Council Review, Open

Houses, and Hearing Officer Public Hearings, as well as FAA review and comment, the Area Planning Commission/City Planning Commission review and comment, the Planning Land Use Management Committee of the Department of City Planning, and City Council approval.

This streamlined process will ensure that this LCP effort will be successfully completed and implemented. The grant will advance this process by providing the funding for the Specific Plan Amendment and the update of the HMP so that LAWA can come before the CCC for certification of these documents as the LAX Dunes LCP.

There are many public agencies, non-profit organizations, elected officials, other entities and individuals who support the project. This is evidenced by the two attached Board of Airport Commissioner's (BOAC) Resolutions No. 25200 and No. 25047 (Attachment C), two City of LA Ordinances as well as the numerous letters of support (see Attachment D) from U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service, CA Department of Fish and Game, CA Native Plant Society, Friends of Ballona Wetlands and the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission, among others. Many other non-profit organizations and local conservation leaders and advocates support the project, because of the ecological importance and endangered status of the LAX Dunes Preserve. LCP related planning work is already performed by the Environmental Services Division of LAWA, however, this grant support will allow LAWA to amend our LAX Dunes Specific Plan to include a LCP permit process and update our HMP to reflect an updated habitat survey and 21st century scientific methods that encourage climate change preparedness.

WORKLOAD AND PERMIT STREAMLINING

LAWA will introduce new implementation procedures through the new Local Coastal Program. The adoption of a new Local Coastal Plan for the LAX Dunes will provide LAWA the delegation of authority to issue *Coastal Development Permits* (CDP) pursuant to CA Coastal Act Section 30600.5. This will also include a Coastal Development Permit process per CA Coastal Act Sections 30600-30627, et. seq. A coastal development permit shall be issued by the respective local government or the commission on appeal, if that local government or the commission on appeal finds that the proposed development is in conformity with the certified land use plan. LAWA will streamline the CDP process into a LAX Dunes *Specific Plan Project Permit Compliance Review* entitlement process for consistency, as outlined in Section 11.5.7 of the LAMC, to minimize delays in restoration for conservation activities

PROJECT INTEGRATION/LEVERAGE/MATCHING FUNDS

This project builds upon existing resources, scientific studies, stakeholder relationships, and planning documents and will call upon specialists knowledgeable in the relevant academic fields to apply current theory and best methodologies in the revision of the HMP. The grant would enable our agency to complete a process initiated in the 1990s. The City of LA has already preserved the LAX Dunes through two city ordinances, conducted a major baseline biological survey of the resource, and developed a draft Specific Plan and a HMP for the LAX Dunes with City funds. CCC grant funds would enable our City to update these planning documents and to submit them for certification as a LCP.

LAWA has also applied for the CCC Climate Change Readiness and Sea Level Adaptation grants for this project. This LCP is one small part of a larger regional conservation effort known as the Santa Monica Bay Restoration Plan. Mentioned previously, the LAX Dunes is a significant part of the Coastal Wildlife Corridor. The LAX Dunes is also a SEA identified in the County of LA's General Plan.

WORK PROGRAM AND SCHEDULE

SCHEDULE

Proposed starting date: March 15, 2014 Estimated completion: April 15, 2016

WORK PROGRAM

	Complete Date: 4/15/16
Task 1. Kick-off, Research & Biological Survey	
Objective/Organization	
1.1 Kick off meetings	
1.2 Updated research of LAX Dunes	
1.3 Complete plant, vertebrate and invertebrate surveys	
Outcome/Deliverables: Updated Research & Biological Survey	Projected date: 5/15/15
Task 2. Ecological Analyses	
Objective/Organization	
2.1 Complete ecological analyses	
Outcome/Deliverables: Ecological Analysis	Projected date: 5/30/15
Task 3. Climate Change/Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment	
Objective/Organization	
3.1 Complete climate change/sea level rise vulnerability assessment	
Outcome/Deliverables: Climate Change Vulnerability Assessment	Projected date: 6/15/15
Task 4. Adopt Specific Plan Amendment	
Objective/Organization	
4.1 Draft Specific Plan Amendment	
4.2 DCP Entitlement Fees	
4.3 Agency Consultations and Review	
4.4 Final Specific Plan Amendment	
Outcome/Deliverables: Final Specific Plan	Projected date: 1/4/2015

WORK PROGRAM, CONTINUED

Task 5: CEQA Mitigated Negative Declaration	
Objective/Organization	
5.1 Draft MND	
5.2 MND Posting	
5.2 Final MND	
Outcome/Deliverables: Final MND	Projected date: 8/15/2014
Task 6. Update Long-Term Habitat Management Plan (HMP) for the LAX Dunes	
6.1 Revise study area to include additional 100 acres	
6.2 Incorporate climate change vulnerability and risk assessment	
6.3 Revise resource management measures to incorporate new data and findings	
6.4 Conduct conceptual stage agency and stakeholder review/outreach	
6.5 Draft HMP	
6.5 Fish and Wildlife Service Recovery Permit Approval	
6.6 Final HMP	
Outcome/Deliverables: Revised and Approved Habitat Management Plan (HMP)	Projected date: 7/15/2015
Task 7. Hearings and Certification of Local Coastal Plan	
7.1 Specific Plan and Habitat Management Plan to FAA for Review and Comment as Local Coastal Plan	
7.2 Specific Plan and Habitat Management Plan Through Board of Airport Commissioners Approval as Local Coastal Plan	
7.3 Specific Plan and Habitat Management Plan to Area Planning Commission and PLUM for approval as Local Coastal Plan	
7.4 Specific Plan and Habitat Management Plan to City Council Adoption as Local Coastal Plan	
7.5 Specific Plan and HMP submitted as a Local Coastal Plan to the California Coastal Commission for Certification	
Outcome/Deliverables: Certified Local Coastal Plan/Streamlined California Coastal Commission permitting for dunes preserve management activities	Projected date: 4/15/2016

BENCHMARK SCHEDULE

ACTIVITY	COMPLETION DATE
Draft Specific Plan	11/1/2014
Kick-off, Research & Biological Survey	5/15/2015
Ecological Analysis	5/30/2015
Climate Change/Sea Level Rise Vulnerability Assessment/Draft Habitat Management Plan	6/15/2015
Final Specific Plan	1/4/2015
Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration/EA	2/15/2015
Agency Consultations and Review	6/30/2015
Final Habitat Management Plan	7/15/2015
FWS Recovery Permit Approval	9/15/2015
Final Mitigated Negative Declaration	8/15/2015
Negative Declaration Posted	9/1/2015
Review and Comment of Specific Plan and Habitat Management Plan to FAA	9/15/2015
Approval of Specific Plan and Habitat Management Plan Through Board of Airport Commissioners	10/15/2015
Specific Plan and Habitat Management Plan Area Planning Commission and PLUM Approval	11/15/2015
Adoption of Specific Plan and Habitat Management Plan Through Council	12/15/2015
Submission of Adopted Revised Plans as Local Coastal Plan to California Coastal Commission	2/4/2016
Approval of Local Coastal Plan	4/15/2016

BUDGET

APPLICATION BUDGET INFORMATION

Funding Request: \$210,130

Total Project Cost: \$675,130

PROJECT FUNDING SOURCES

Task No.	Task	Total Cost	Allocation of total cost among all funding sources		
			Applicant's funding	LCP Grant Funding	Other Funds (*define below)
1	Kickoff, Research & Biological Surveys	\$97,630	\$52,500	\$ 45,130	\$0
2	Ecological Analyses	\$52,500	\$32,500	\$ 20,000	\$0
3	Climate Change Vulnerability and Risk Assessment	\$42,500	\$22,500	\$20,000	\$0
4.1	Draft Specific Plan Amendment	\$105,000	\$105,000	\$0	\$0
4.2	Entitlement Fees for SPA	\$54,000	\$0	\$54,000	\$0
5.1	Draft Mitigated Negative Declaration	\$105,000	\$105,000	\$0	\$0
6.5	Draft Habitat Management Plan	\$101,000	\$50,000	\$51,000	\$0
4.3	Agency Consultations and Review	\$25,000	\$0	\$0	\$25,000
4.4	Final Specific Plan	\$8,000	\$5,000	\$3,000	\$0
6.5	FWS Recovery Permit Approval	\$10,000	\$0	\$10,000	\$0
6.7	Final Habitat Management Plan	\$22,500	\$22,500	\$0	\$0
5.2	Mitigated Negative Declaration Posted	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000	\$0
5.3	Final Mitigated Negative Declaration	\$12,000	\$10,000	\$2,000	\$0
7.1	FAA Review and Comment	\$5,000	\$0	\$0	\$5,000
7.2	Specific Plan and Habitat Management Plan Through Board of Airport Commissioners Approval	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0	\$0
7.3	Specific Plan and Habitat Management Plan Area Planning Commission and PLUM Approval	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000
7.4	Specific Plan and Habitat Management Plan Local Coastal Program Council Adoption	\$10,000	\$5,000	\$0	\$5,000
7.5	Specific Plan Amendment and HMP Update as Local Coastal Program to California Coastal Commission for Certification	\$5,000	\$5,000	\$0	\$0
	TOTAL	\$675,130	\$425,000	\$210,130	\$40,000

In-kind Services: \$ 465,000 (For review of HMP and Specific Plan)

LAWA	\$ 425,000
Other agencies (FAA, CCC, CADFW & USFWS)	\$ 40,000

BUDGET SUMMARY

Grant Application Budget Form

Organization Name: LAWA – City of Los Angeles
 Project Title: Amendment of the LAX El Segundo Dunes Specific Plan and Long-Term Habitat Management Plan (Together the Proposed Local Coastal Plan for the LAX Dunes Preserve) to Address Climate Change.
 Requested Amount: \$ 210,130

	Grant Request Budget	Total Project Budget
Personnel:		
Kickoff, Research, and Baseline Biology Surveys	\$ 40,000.00	\$ 92,500.00
Ecological Analyses	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 52,500.00
Climate Change Vulnerability and Risk Assessment	\$ 20,000.00	\$ 42,500.00
Habitat Management Plan (HMP)	\$ 50,000.00	\$ 122,500.00
Specific Plan Amendment		\$ 110,000.00
Mitigated Negative Declaration		\$ 115,000.00
SUBTOTAL	\$ 130,000.00	\$ 535,000.00
Operating Expenses:		
Document Reproduction	\$ 2,200.00	\$ 2,200.00
Aerial Imagery	\$ 800.00	\$ 800.00
GPS (per day)	\$ 500.00	\$ 500.00
Plotting & Color Prints	\$ 2,500.00	\$ 2,500.00
Technical Maps	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Posting and Noticing	\$ 5,000.00	\$ 5,000.00
Per Diem/Meals & Lodging	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
Mileage	\$ 1,130.00	\$ 1,130.00
Agencies review	\$ -	\$ 30,000.00
Agencies Hearings	\$ -	\$ 30,000.00
SUBTOTAL	\$ 16,130.00	\$ 76,130.00
Entitlement Fees:		
Specific Plan Amendment	\$ 41,000.00	\$ 41,000.00
FWS Recovery Permit Approval	\$ 10,000.00	\$ 10,000.00
Mitigated Negative Declaration	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00
SUBTOTAL	\$ 53,000.00	\$ 53,000.00
Surcharges:		
General Plan Maintenance Surcharge	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
OSS Surcharge	\$ 1,000.00	\$ 1,000.00
Development Surcharge	\$ 3,000.00	\$ 3,000.00
Operating Surcharge	\$ 4,000.00	\$ 4,000.00
SUBTOTAL	\$ 11,000.00	\$ 11,000.00

Total Budget

\$ 210,130.00

\$ 675,130.00

ATTACHMENTS

Attachment A	Resolution from Applicant's Governing Body <i>Draft Resolution to go before the LAWA BOAC on December 2, 2013</i>
Attachment B	Detailed Budget
Attachment C	BOAC Resolution No. 25200 & Resolution No. 25047
Attachment D	Letters of Support <i>California Native Plant Society</i> <i>US Fish and Wildlife Service</i> <i>California Department of Fish and Wildlife</i> <i>Friends of the Ballona Wetlands</i> <i>Bay Restoration Commission</i> <i>State Coastal Conservancy</i>

Attachment A

Resolution from Applicant's Governing Body

Draft Resolution to go before the LAWA BOAC on December 2, 2013

Date for when governing body will consider adoption of the Resolution:

This Resolution is going before LAWA's Board of Airport Commissioners December 2, 2013

DRAFT RESOLUTION NO. _____

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles/El Segundo Dunes are a precious landform home to countless species including the El Segundo blue butterfly, a federally listed endangered species; and

WHEREAS, the Dunes were purchased by Los Angeles World Airports (City of Los Angeles Department of Airports) between 1966 and 1972 in order to create compatible land uses around the airport; and

WHEREAS, the Dunes have been carefully managed and successfully restored over the decades through a collaborative effort involving community, scientific and regulatory stakeholders, and guided by the 1992 Los Angeles/El Segundo Dunes Specific Plan and the 1994 Long Term Habitat Management Plan for Los Angeles Airport/El Segundo Dunes; and

WHEREAS, a certified Local Coastal Program is required for this area by the California Coastal Commission in order to streamline permitting of improvements and restoration, and has not yet been approved by the California Coastal Commission; and

WHEREAS, LAWA and the City of Los Angeles are eligible to apply for grants for the update of its Los Angeles/El Segundo Dunes Specific Plan and its Long-Term Habitat Management Plan for Los Angeles/El Segundo Dunes, and the creation of a certified Local Coastal Program; and

WHEREAS, grant proposals require land use plan and/or zoning work to either achieve submittal for certification of a Local Coastal Program (LCP) or an Area of Deferred Certification (ADC) or of an LCP Amendment to significantly update a certified LCP or LCP segments, including special emphasis on effects of climate change and sea-level rise;

WHEREAS, the City of Los Angeles prioritizes its stewardship of public lands and seeks to manage lands using up-to-date plans and policies; and

WHEREAS, the Los Angeles World Airports (City of Los Angeles Department of Airports), desires to pursue a project that would result in the completion and submittal for certification by the California Coastal Commission of an LCP and desires to assume permit issuing authority,

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Board of Airport Commissioners, of the Los Angeles World Airports (City of Los Angeles Department of Airports), hereby: Commits to and agrees to fully support a planning effort intended to complete a certified LCP pursuant to the provisions of the California Coastal Act, with full public participation and coordination with the California Coastal Commission staff and appropriate public involvement.

PASSED AND ADOPTED by the Board of Airport Commissioners), of the Los Angeles World Airports (City of Los Angeles Department of Airports, on this 2nd day of December, 2013 on the following vote:

AYES:

NOES:

ABSENT:

ABSTAIN:

Attest:

Signed:

DETAILED BUDGET

LABOR	RATE	Task 1		Task 2		Task 3		Task 4		Task 5		Task 6		Total
		Kickoff, Research & Baseline Biology Surveys	Cost	Ecological Analyses	Cost	Climate Change Vulnerability & Risk Assessment	Cost	Specific Plan	Cost	MND	Cost	HMP	Cost	
Consultant Personnel														
Principal	\$ 210	\$ 3,400	\$ 1,700	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	67 \$ 14,100
Principal Biologist	\$ 180	\$ 3,000	\$ 5,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	100 \$ 18,000
Sr. Scientist	\$ 125	\$ 18,000	\$ 8,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ 6,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	416 \$ 52,000
Biologist III	\$ 90	\$ 12,600	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 8,000	\$ 8,000	318 \$ 28,600
Technical Editor	\$ 75	\$ -	\$ 300	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	57 \$ 4,300
Operations Manager	\$ 85	\$ 400	\$ 200	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 500	\$ 500	25 \$ 2,100
Sr. GIS Specialist	\$ 130	\$ 600	\$ 300	\$ 300	\$ 300	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	26 \$ 3,400
GIS Specialist	\$ 95	\$ 2,000	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	68 \$ 6,500
Clerical	\$ 75	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	13 \$ 1,000
Subtotal		\$ 40,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 130,000
LAWA Personnel														
AEMII	\$ 76	\$ 12,500	\$ 12,500	\$ 12,500	\$ 12,500	\$ 12,500	\$ 12,500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 12,500	\$ 12,500	660 \$ 50,000
ES III	\$ 51	\$ 40,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 20,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	2,560 \$ 130,000
City Planning Assoc	\$ 44	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 50,000	\$ 50,000	\$ 55,000	\$ 55,000	\$ -	\$ -	1,763 \$ 105,000
Chief of Airports Planner	\$ 60	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	\$ 60,000	\$ -	\$ -	2,014 \$ 120,000
Subtotal		\$ 52,500	\$ 32,500	\$ 32,500	\$ 32,500	\$ 22,500	\$ 22,500	\$ 110,000	\$ 110,000	\$ 115,000	\$ 115,000	\$ 72,500	\$ 72,500	\$ 405,000
TOTAL LABOR		\$ 92,500	\$ 52,500	\$ 52,500	\$ 52,500	\$ 42,500	\$ 42,500	\$ 110,000	\$ 110,000	\$ 115,000	\$ 115,000	\$ 122,500	\$ 122,500	\$ 535,000
*rounded up														
Consultant Benefits are 10%														
LAWA Personnel Benefits are 13%														
OPERATING EXPENSES														
Document Reproduction		\$ 200	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 750	\$ 750	\$ 750	\$ 750	\$ 500	\$ 500	2,200 \$
GPS (per day)		\$ 800	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	800 \$
Aerial Imagery		\$ 500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	500 \$
Plotting & Color Prints		\$ 500	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 750	\$ 750	\$ 750	\$ 750	\$ 500	\$ 500	2,500 \$
Technical Maps		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,500	\$ 1,500	\$ 500	\$ 500	\$ -	\$ -	2,000 \$
Posting & Noticing		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 5,000	\$ 5,000	\$ -	\$ -	5,000 \$
Per Diem/Meals & Lodging		\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	2,000 \$
Mileage	\$0.57	\$ 1,130	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	1,130 \$
Agency Review		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ -	\$ -	30,000 \$
Agency Hearings		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ 15,000	\$ -	\$ -	30,000 \$
Subtotal		\$ 5,130	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 33,000	\$ 33,000	\$ 37,000	\$ 37,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ 76,130
ENTITLEMENT FEES														
Specific Plan Amendment		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 41,000	\$ 41,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	41,000 \$
FWS Recovery Permit Approval		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	10,000 \$
Mitigated Negative Declaration		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ -	\$ -	2,000 \$
Subtotal		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 41,000	\$ 41,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 2,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 10,000	\$ 53,000
SURCHARGES														
General Plan Maintenance Surcharge		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	3,000 \$
OSS Surcharge		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,000	\$ 1,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	1,000 \$
Development Surcharge		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,000	\$ 3,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	3,000 \$
Operating Surcharge		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,000	\$ 4,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	4,000 \$
Subtotal		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,000	\$ 11,000	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,000
TOTAL		\$ 97,630	\$ 52,500	\$ 52,500	\$ 52,500	\$ 42,500	\$ 42,500	\$ 195,000	\$ 195,000	\$ 154,000	\$ 154,000	\$ 133,500	\$ 133,500	\$ 675,130



Los Angeles
World Airports

CONFORMED COPY

BOARD FILE NO. DA-4836

RESOLUTION NO. 25200

LAX
LAX Airports
Van Nuys
City of Los Angeles
The Honorable
Mayor
Board of Airport
Commissioners
Michael A. Larson
President
Antonio J. Vazquez
Vice President
Joseph A. Jones
Robert D. Boer
Ann McWhorter
Dale Harris
Fernando N. Torres
City Manager
Executive Director

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Airport Commissioners approved Award of Contract to Griffith Company for the Coastal Dunes Improvement Project at Los Angeles International Airport, and appropriate capital funds in the not-to-exceed amount of \$1,997,282, as referenced on the board report attached herein and made part hereof; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Board of Airport Commissioners authorized the Executive Director to execute said Contract upon approval as to form by the City Attorney; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that operation, repair, maintenance or minor alteration of existing highways and streets, sidewalks, gutters, and service roads, except where the activity will involve removal of a scenic resource including but not limited to a stand of trees, a rock outcropping or an historic building is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article III Class 1(3) of the Los Angeles City CEQA Guidelines; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that actions taken on this item by the Board of Airport Commissioners will become final pursuant to the provisions of Los Angeles City Charter Section 245.

000

I hereby certify that this Resolution No. 25200
is true and correct, as adopted by the Board of
Airport Commissioners at its Regular Meeting
held on Tuesday, August 20, 2013.

Sandra J. Miller - Secretary
BOARD OF AIRPORT COMMISSIONERS





Los Angeles World Airports

BOARD FILE NO. 2003

RESOLUTION NO. 25047

LAX
LA/Ontario
Van Allen

City of Los Angeles
Antonio R. Villalpando
Mayor

Board of Airport
Commissioners

Richard A. Linnert
President

Robert C. Velasco
Vice President

Joseph A. Angelo
Robert D. Edgar
Amy M. Hallock
Vernice M. Johnson

Glenn M. Loney
Executive Director

BE IT RESOLVED that the Board of Airport Commissioners authorized the Executive Director to release a Notice Inviting Bids for the Coastal Dunes Improvement Project at Los Angeles International Airport as referenced on the board report attached herein and made part hereof; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this action, as a continuing administrative activity, is exempt from the requirements of the California Environmental Quality Act (CEQA) pursuant to Article II Section 2(f) of the Los Angeles City CEQA Guidelines; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED actions taken on this item by the Board of Airport Commissioners will become final pursuant to the provisions of Los Angeles City Charter Section 245.

o0o

I hereby certify that this Resolution No. 25047 is true and correct, as adopted by the Board of Airport Commissioners at its Special Meeting held on Tuesday, February 19, 2013.

Sandra J. Miller - Secretary
BOARD OF AIRPORT COMMISSIONERS

Attachment D

Letters of Support

California Native Plant Society

US Fish and Wildlife Service

California Department of Fish and Wildlife

Friends of the Ballona Wetlands

Bay Restoration Commission

Entomological Consulting Services, Inc.

California Native Plant Society
Los Angeles/Santa Monica Mountains Chapter
15811 Leadwell St.
Van Nuys, CA 91406
July 12, 2013

State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Selection Committee:

On behalf of the California Native Plant Society, Los Angeles/Santa Monica Mountains Chapter I am writing to urge strong support for the Los Angeles World Airport's proposal, "Update of the Los Angeles Airport El Segundo Dunes Specific Plan and Long-Term Habitat Management Plan (HMP) (together the proposed Local Coastal Plan for the LAX Dunes Preserve) to Address Climate Change".

The 307-acre LAX El Segundo Dunes ("LAX Dunes Preserve") is the largest remaining fragment of coastal dunes in Southern California and has been identified as a Significant Ecological Area (SEA) by the County of Los Angeles SEA Technical Advisory Committee. It includes 43 acres of undisturbed native dunes, including 9 acres of backdune and 30 acres of contiguous foredune. It is home to, and is the most significant recovery unit for, the federally endangered El Segundo Blue Butterfly (*Euphilotes battoides allyni*). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service describes the LAX Dunes Preserve as an *endangered habitat*, and "the most likely [population of El Segundo Blue Butterfly] that can survive disease, predators, *parasites*, and other *perturbations*." The LAX Dunes was also recently used by federally threatened California gnatcatchers (*Poliophtila californica*) as nesting and breeding habitat.

By the nature of its form, flexibility, and physical diversity, the LAX Dunes contain a variety of microclimates that can support a broad diversity of plant species. A species diversity and habitat evaluation of the LAX Dunes published by LAWA in 1990 revealed over 900 species of plants and animals present at the time of evaluation, including at least 10 species which appeared restricted to the El Segundo sand dunes and an additional 25 found only on southern California coastal dunes systems. This number is actually a reduction from the biodiversity that had been observed at the Dunes in the late 1930s prior to the development of the Dunes for residential use. Between 1966 and 1972, LAWA purchased and removed these residences through eminent domain citing a conflict with airport activities. LAWA began restoration of the endangered butterfly habitat and coast dunes ecosystem in the early 1990s with the approval of the California Coastal Commission and later with support by the State Coastal Conservancy, and by 1994, LAWA had restored and re-vegetated over 175 acres of the 200-acre butterfly habitat restoration area, and continues to maintain the site, and monitor the endangered butterfly. The butterfly is dependent on its host plant, the coastal buckwheat (*Eriogonum parvifolium*) which has been extensively replanted in the Preserve area.

The entire approximately 307 acres of the LAX Dunes Preserve has been preserved by City ordinances, but the Specific Plan for the area has not yet been updated to reflect the preservation of the additional 100 acres added in 1994. The Long-Term Habitat Management Plan for the Preserve also needs to be updated to incorporate this additional acreage and best practices for maintaining the resilience of biodiversity in the Preserve and along the coast.

The California Native Plant Society (CNPS) is a non-profit organization of over 9,000 laypersons and professional botanists with 33 statewide chapters. Our mission is to increase the understanding and appreciation of California's native plants and to conserve them and their natural habitats through education, science, advocacy, horticulture and stewardship. The ongoing habitat restoration at the LAX Dunes Preserve is a project that is to be encouraged and supported. We strongly urge the Coastal Commission to provide funding to help preserve this very rare coastal dunes habitat for future Californians.

Sincerely,



Snowdy Dodson, Chapter President

818-782-9346 email: snowdy.dodson@csun.edu



United States Department of the Interior

FISH AND WILDLIFE SERVICE

Ecological Services
Carlsbad Fish and Wildlife Office
2177 Salk Avenue, Suite 250
Carlsbad, California 92008



In Reply Refer To:
FWS-LA-10B0225-13TA0353

JUL 12 2013

Selection Committee
State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, California 94612

Subject: Letter of Support

Dear Selection Committee:

We are writing to express our support for Los Angeles World Airports' (LAWA) proposal, *Update of the Los Angeles Airport El Segundo Dunes Specific Plan and Long-Term Habitat Management Plan (HMP) (together, the proposed Local Coastal Plan for the LAX Dunes Preserve) to Address Climate Change*. Our agency has coordinated efforts with the Federal Aviation Administration and LAWA to ensure various airport improvement projects address the protection of sensitive habitats and federally listed species residing on or adjacent to LAX. In particular, the preservation on LAX property of the largest remaining fragment of the El Segundo dunes is of great importance to the Fish and Wildlife Service due to its significance to the survival and recovery of the federally endangered El Segundo blue butterfly (*Euphilotes battoides allyni*).

The El Segundo dunes is an endangered landform that once extended from Westchester to the north, to the Palos Verdes peninsula, to the south. Development of most of this dune complex over the last century has resulted in the almost complete elimination of its plant communities, including coastal foredunes, backdunes and the coastal prairie. This resulted in the endangerment and listing of the El Segundo blue butterfly in 1976 and the endangerment or extirpation of other sensitive species endemic to the dunes (Mattoni 1993).

The survival and recovery of the El Segundo blue butterfly is dependent upon protection of the few remaining coastal dune fragments between Playa Del Rey and Malaga Cove where the butterfly is known to persist. Because populations of the El Segundo blue butterfly are so small and fragmented, the species survival also relies on protection of portions of these areas where the butterfly does not exist but could be restored and managed for the species. Of the four identified recovery units covering the remaining dune fragments, the recovery plan for the El Segundo blue butterfly (USFWS 1998) highlights the airport dunes as essential to the survival and recovery of the species because they support the largest and most likely population capable of withstanding disease, predators, parasites, and other perturbations.

In recognition of the importance of the El Segundo dune ecosystem, in 1992 the City of Los Angeles adopted the *Los Angeles Airport El Segundo Dunes Specific Plan* for the 302-acre airport dunes site that created the LAX Dunes Preserve within the southern 200 acres of the area and proposed a golf

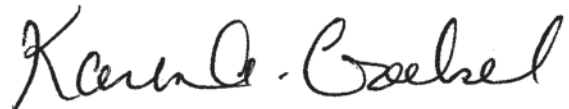
course land use over the northern 100 acres. Associated with the Specific Plan, in 1994 LAWA adopted a Long Term Habitat Management Plan (HMP) that called for protection and restoration of the dune ecosystem within the dunes preserve. Implementation of the HMP has successfully restored dune habitat throughout much of the 200-acre area and greatly increased the distribution and abundance of the El Segundo blue butterfly within the LAX Dunes Preserve.

Subsequent to adoption of the Specific Plan, in 1994 the City adopted an ordinance that eliminated the proposed golf course land use and rezoned the northern 100 acres for open space/nature preserve and accessory uses only. This effectively increases the potential size of the LAX Dunes Preserve. However, the northern 100-acres, the location of a former residential development that was abandoned in association with the airport land use, remains in a degraded condition, and management of this area has not been integrated into the HMP.

If funded, LAWA's grant proposal will update the Specific Plan and HMP (together, the proposed Local Coastal Plan for the LAX Dunes) to incorporate the zoning changes that add 100 acres of potential coastal dunes habitat to the dunes preserve and to incorporate best practices for achieving and maintaining the resiliency of the biodiversity and sensitive habitat in the LAX Dunes Preserve. We anticipate that this update will formally expand the LAX Dunes Preserve and the scope of on-going habitat restoration and management activities to include this area. Because of the importance of protecting and restoring all remaining fragments of the El Segundo dunes ecosystem to the survival and recovery of the El Segundo blue butterfly, as well as other sensitive species endemic to this area, we strongly endorse LAWA's grant proposal.

Should you have questions or wish to discuss LAWA's grant proposal, please do not hesitate to contact William B. Miller of our staff at 760-431-9440, extension 206.

Sincerely,



Karen A. Goebel
Assistant Field Supervisor

cc: Peggy Nguyen, Los Angeles World Airports

References:

Mattoni, R. 1993. Natural and restorable fragments of the former El Segundo sand dunes ecosystem. Pp. 289-294 In Keeley, J.E. (ed.) *Interface Between Ecology and Land Development in California*. Southern California Academy of Sciences, Los Angeles, California.

U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service (USFWS). 1998. *Recovery Plan for the El Segundo blue butterfly (Euphilotes battoides allyni)*. Portland, Oregon. 67 pp.



Friends of Ballona Wetlands

www.ballonafriends.org

Board of Directors

Dr. David Kay, President
Dr. James Landry, Vice President
Lisa Fimiani, Secretary
John Gregory, Treasurer
Ruth Lansford, Founder
Micah Ali
Paul Costa
Dr. Pippa Drennan
Susan Gottlieb
Stephen Groner
Andrew Henderson
Steve Hirai
Dr. Edith Read
Bob Shanman
Catherine Tyrrell
Richard Wegman

Board Delegates

Jacob Lipa
Michael Swimmer

Emeritus Board

Tim Rudnick
Ed Tarvyd

July 13, 2013

State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Subject: LAWA SCC Grant Proposal 2013

Dear Selection Committee:

I am writing on behalf of the Friends of Ballona Wetlands to express our strong support for the Los Angeles World Airport's (LAWA) proposal, "Update of the Los Angeles Airport El Segundo Dunes Specific Plan and Long-Term Habitat Management Plan (HMP) (together the proposed Local Coastal Plan for the LAX Dunes Preserve) to Address Climate Change".

The 307-acre LAX El Segundo Dunes ("LAX Dunes Preserve") is the largest remaining fragment of coastal dunes in Southern California and has been identified as a Significant Ecological Area (SEA) by the County of Los Angeles SEA Technical Advisory Committee. It includes 43 acres of undisturbed native dunes, including 9 acres of backdune and 30 acres of contiguous foredune. It is home to, and is the most significant recovery unit for, the federally endangered El Segundo Blue Butterfly (*Euphilotes battoides allyni*). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service describes the LAX Dunes Preserve as an endangered habitat, and "the most likely [population of El Segundo Blue Butterfly] that can survive disease, predators, parasites, and other perturbations."

The LAX Dunes was also recently used by federally threatened California gnatcatchers (*Poliophtila californica*) as nesting and breeding habitat.

By the nature of its form, flexibility, and physical diversity, the LAX Dunes contain a variety of microclimates that can support a broad diversity of plant species. A species diversity and habitat evaluation of the LAX Dunes published by LAWA in 1990 revealed over 900 species of animals and plants present at the time of evaluation, including at least 10 species which appeared restricted to the El Segundo sand dunes and an additional 25 found only on southern California coastal dunes systems. This number is actually a reduction from the biodiversity that had been observed at the Dunes in the late 1930s prior to the development of the Dunes for residential use. Between 1966 and 1972, LAWA purchased and removed these residences through

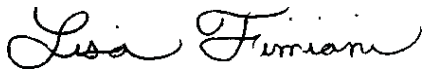
Eminent Domain, citing a conflict with airport activities. LAWA began restoration of the endangered butterfly habitat and coast dunes ecosystem in the early 1990s with the approval of the California Coastal Commission and later with support by the State Coastal Conservancy. By 1994, LAWA had restored and re-vegetated over 175 acres of the 200-acre butterfly habitat restoration area, and continues to successfully maintain the site, and monitor the endangered butterfly.

The entire approximately 307 acres of the LAX Dunes Preserve has been preserved by City ordinances, but the Specific Plan for the area has not yet been updated to reflect the preservation of the additional 100 acres added in 1994. The Long-Term Habitat Management Plan for the Preserve also needs to be updated to incorporate this additional acreage and best practices for maintaining the resilience of biodiversity in the Preserve and along the coast.

We consider the El Segundo Dunes our neighbor in Ballona Wetlands Dunes restoration efforts, and fully support their efforts to successfully continue to maintain their Dunes for rare and endangered species.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have further questions. Thank you!

Sincerely,



Lisa Fimiani
Executive Director
lisaf@ballonafriends.org

cc:

Peggy Nguyen, Environmental Specialist III
Los Angeles World Airports Environmental Services Division
Wildlife Habitat/Biological Resources Conservation Compliance Unit
Email: PeggyNguyen@LAWA.org; Telephone: (424) 646-6488

Entomological Consulting Services, Ltd.

104 Mountain View Court, Pleasant Hill, CA 94523-2188 • (925) 825-3784 • FAX (925) 827-1809
bugdctr@comcast.net • www.ecsltd.com

11 July 2013

State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Selection Committee:

I am writing to express my strong support for the Los Angeles World Airport's proposal, "Update of the Los Angeles Airport El Segundo Dunes Specific Plan and Long-Term Habitat Management Plan (HMP) (together the proposed Local Coastal Plan for the LAX Dunes Preserve) to Address Climate Change".

The 307-acre LAX El Segundo Dunes ("LAX Dunes Preserve") is the largest remaining fragment of coastal dunes in Southern California and has been identified as a Significant Ecological Area (SEA) by the County of Los Angeles SEA Technical Advisory Committee. It includes 43 acres of undisturbed native dunes, including 9 acres of backdune and 30 acres of contiguous foredune. It is home to, and is the most significant recovery unit for, the federally endangered El Segundo Blue Butterfly (*Euphilotes battoides allynii*). The U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service describes the LAX Dunes Preserve as an *endangered habitat*, and "the most likely [population of El Segundo Blue Butterfly] that can survive disease, predators, *parasites*, and other *perturbations*." The LAX Dunes was also recently used by federally threatened California gnatcatchers (*Poliophtila californica*) as nesting and breeding habitat.

By the nature of its form, flexibility, and physical diversity, the LAX Dunes contain a variety of microclimates that can support a broad diversity of plant species. A species diversity and habitat evaluation of the LAX Dunes published by LAWA in 1990 revealed over 900 species of animals and plants present at the time of evaluation, including at least 10 species which appeared restricted to the El Segundo sand dunes and an additional 25 found only on southern California coastal dunes systems. This number is actually a reduction from the biodiversity that had been observed at the Dunes in the late 1930s prior to the development of the Dunes for residential use. Between 1966 and 1972, LAWA purchased and removed these residences through eminent domain citing a conflict with airport activities. LAWA began restoration of the endangered butterfly habitat and coast dunes ecosystem in the early 1990s with the approval of the California Coastal Commission and later with support by the State Coastal Conservancy, and by 1994, LAWA had restored and re-vegetated over 175 acres of the 200-acre butterfly habitat restoration area, and continues to maintain the site, and monitor the endangered butterfly.

The entire approximately 307 acres of the LAX Dunes Preserve has been preserved by City ordinances, but the Specific Plan for the area has not yet been updated to reflect the preservation of the additional 100 acres added in 1994. The Long-Term Habitat Management Plan for the Preserve also needs to be updated to incorporate this additional acreage and best practices for maintaining the resilience of biodiversity in the Preserve and along the coast.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have further questions.

Sincerely,

Richard A. Arnold, Ph.D.
President



bay restoration commission

STEWARDS OF SANTA MONICA BAY

santa monica bay restoration commission 320 west 4th street, ste 200; los angeles, california 90013
213/576-6615 phone 213/576-6646 fax santamonica.org

July 12, 2013

State Coastal Conservancy
1330 Broadway, 13th Floor
Oakland, CA 94612

Dear Selection Committee:

I am writing to express our strong support for the Los Angeles World Airport's proposal, "Update of the Los Angeles Airport El Segundo Dunes Specific Plan and Long-Term Habitat Management Plan (HMP) (together the proposed Local Coastal Plan for the LAX Dunes Preserve) to Address Climate Change".

The 307-acre LAX El Segundo Dunes ("LAX Dunes Preserve") is the largest remaining fragment of coastal dunes in Southern California and has been identified as a Significant Ecological Area (SEA) by the County of Los Angeles SEA Technical Advisory Committee. It is home to more than 900 species of plants and animals, many are endemic to the Southern California coastal dune system and/or restricted to the El Segundo sand dunes only, including the federally endangered El Segundo Blue Butterfly (*Euphilotes battoides allyni*) and federally threatened California gnatcatchers (*Poliophtila californica*).

The Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission was established by the California Legislature in 2002 to monitor, assess, coordinate, and advise the activities that affect the beneficial uses, restoration and enhancement of Santa Monica Bay and its watersheds. Recognizing the important value of the natural dune and bluff habitats in adapting to potential impacts of climate change, we laid out goals and objectives in our Bay Restoration Plan for protecting and restoring these habitats and have already carried out several dune/bluff restoration projects along the Bay's shoreline. The El Segundo sand dunes are among the top priorities identified for preservation and restoration in our Bay Restoration Plan, and the proposed updating of the Long-Term Habitat Management Plan and the Specific Plan for the LAX Dunes Preserve are important steps to achieve these priorities.

We fully support this grant application. Thank you for your consideration. Please feel free to contact me at 213-576-6639 (gwang@waterboards.ca.gov) if you have further questions.

Sincerely,

Guangyu Wang
Deputy Director
Santa Monica Bay Restoration Commission

our mission: to restore and enhance the santa monica bay through actions and partnerships that improve water quality, conserve and rehabilitate natural resources, and protect the bay's benefits and values

